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(57) Abstract: Materials and methods for making small magnetic particles, e.g. clusters of metal atoms, which can be employed as a substrate for immobilising a plurality of ligands. Also disclosed are uses of these magnetic nanoparticles as therapeutic and diagnostic reagents, and in the study of ligand-mediated interactions.

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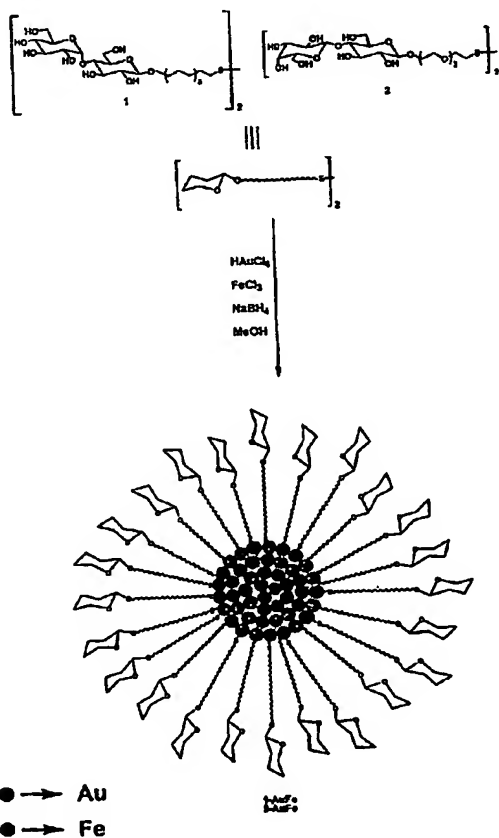
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